

From: Daniel Ringhauser [dringhauser@GPTX.org]

Sent: 8/20/2020 5:07:34 PM

To: Loesel, Matthew [loesel.matthew@epa.gov]

Subject: RE: Poly-America Fire Response

Received,

Thank you!

Daniel Ringhauser
Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator
City of Grand Prairie
1525 Arkansas Ln.
Grand Prairie, TX 75052
972-237-8344 – Office
972-523-9144 – Cell
dringhauser@GPTX.org

From: Loesel, Matthew <loesel.matthew@epa.gov>

Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 12:05 PM

To: Daniel Ringhauser <dringhauser@GPTX.org>; Office of Emergency Management <OEM@GPTX.org>

Subject: FW: Poly-America Fire Response

From: Loesel, Matthew

Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 3:23 PM

To: Cindy Mendez < Cmendez@GPTX.org>; d.ringhauser@gptx.org

Subject: Poly-America Fire Response

Please see the following message regarding the preliminary data from our overflight this morning.

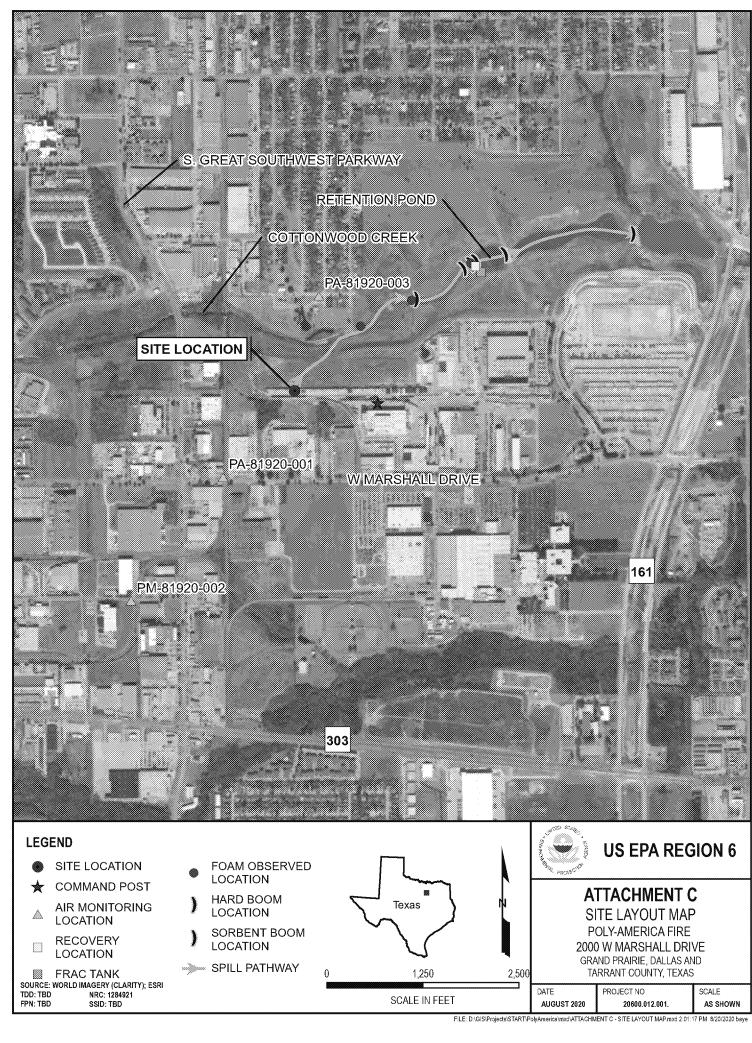
The Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology (ASPECT) aircraft found detections of isobutylene and 1-butene. ASPECT found no exceedances of the Texas comparison values on August 19, 2020. ASPECT has conducted a screening level assessment to evaluate the unreported or undetected releases of hazardous materials or contaminants at the Poly-America Fire Response in Grand Prairie, Texas. The screening level results from ASPECT were compared to the ASPECT list of Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) short-term Air Monitoring Comparison Values (AMCVs) and found no exceedances of the short-term AMCVs for isobutylene (270 ppm) and 1-butene (27 ppm).

If you have any questions or additional needs or concerns, please feel free to contact me.

Matthew Loesel

U.S. EPA - Federal On-Scene Coordinator

1201 Elm Street Suite 500 (65ED-EC) Dallas, Texas 75270 (214) 738 0674 (mobile) (214) 665 8544 (office) loesel.matthew@epa-gov



From: Knowles, Nicholas [knowles.nicholas@epa.gov]

Sent: 8/19/2020 2:40:56 PM

Subject: EOC Spot Report: Region 6, Poly-America Plant Fire, Grand Prairie, TX

This report is being sent as a bcc to prevent accidental Reply to All messages.

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EOC Spot Report: Region 6, Poly-America Plant Fire GRAND PRAIRIE, TX, NRC#1284921

US Environmental Protection Agency

Report Date: 8/19/2020

Last edited 8/19/2020 10:31 AM UTC

Overview: On the evening of Tuesday, August 18th, a fire started at the Poly America plant in Grand Prairie, TX. The facility manufactures and stores plastic pellets. The fire will likely continue to burn throughout the day today and tomorrow. Officials have encouraged residents in the area to self-evacuate as fumes coming from the blaze could be harmful to anyone who suffers respiratory problems. The blaze broke out sometime before midnight along an area of pallets and rail cars outside the facility. It is believed that two rail cars are burning. Employees inside the facility were evacuated. Crews are monitoring a situation with electrical tower towers in the area. Firefighters are concerned that the towers which stand up to 60 feet tall could fall, bringing down power lines a mile in each direction. Poly America's website says it produces several products in the polyethylene family. The facility reported runoff of firefighting foam that has entered North Cottonwood Creek.

State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions: Local fire departments have responded and have established a IMT under unified command with the City of Grand Prairie and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality all of whom have deployed response assets. DHS IMAAC, Ft. Belvoir, is providing plume modeling support.

EPA Actions: The Incident Management Team has requested aerial air monitoring support from EPA CMAD. ASPECT has been deployed and will fly the scene and plume once flight restrictions from the nearby DFW airport are lifted.

R6 has dispatched a START contractor to assist in air monitoring in the local area. EPA Phone Duty Officer will continue to monitor the situation and remain in contact with the City of Grand Prairie and the State of Texas.

Media Interest: Medium

Media Links:

https://www.wbap.com/2020/08/19/breaking-massive-fire-at-poly-america-plant-in-grand-prairie-threatens-businesses/

https://www.dallasnews.com/news/2020/08/19/grand-prairie-firefighters-battling-massive-industrial-blaze/

https://www.foxnews.com/us/texas-plant-fire-grand-prairie

The EPA will continue to monitor and provide updates as needed UNCLASSIFIED//FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Nicholas Knowles, Senior Watch Officer U.S Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters Emergency Operations Center 1200 Pennsylvania Ave NW Washington, DC 20460 202-564-3850 eoc.epahq@epa.gov

From: Loesel, Matthew [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=F2136F67BD8644149EF4883722E4DA9A-LOESEL, MATT]

Sent: 8/19/2020 8:18:35 PM

To: Smalley, Bryant [smalley.bryant@epa.gov]

Subject: Please review

Overview - A fire at the Poly America plant in Grand Prairie continues to smolder from some hot spots. Officials have encouraged residents in the area to self-evacuate as fumes coming from the blaze could be harmful to anyone who suffers from breathing problems. The blaze broke out sometime before midnight along an area of pallets and rail cars outside the facility. Employees inside the facility were evacuated. Crews are monitoring a situation with electrical tower towers in the area. Firefighters are concerned that the towers which stand up to 60 feet tall could fall, bringing down power lines a mile in each direction. Poly America's website says it produces several products in the polyethylene family.

The facility reported that firefighting foams have made it into North Cottonwood Creek.

State, Local and other Federal Agency Actions: The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) arrived at the site with their contractors and conducted air monitoring. In addition, TCEQ requested that Poly-America contract their own air monitoring teams to determine if off-site receptors are impacted by this incident and evaluate appropriate responses. They requested Poly-America monitor for the following constitutes downwind: particulate matter, LEL, VOCs, CO, H2S, and O2. The locations/distances would depend on the concentrations detected and monitoring should continue until the fire is under control and smoke is not leaving the property

EPA Actions - EPA's ASPECT aircraft detected isobutylene and 1-butene. ASPECT found no exceedances of the Texas comparison values on August 19, 2020. ASPECT has conducted a screening level assessment to evaluate the unreported or undetected releases of hazardous materials or contaminants at the Poly-America.

Additionally EPA's START contractor performed air monitoring at 1 upwind and 2 downwind locations, with no detections at or near screening levels. EPA START is demobilizing from the scene.

Matthew Loesel

U.S. EPA - Federal On-Scene Coordinator

1201 Elm Street
Suite 500 (65ED-EC)
Dallas, Texas 75270
(214) 738 0674 (mobile)
(214) 665 8544 (office)
loesel.matthew@epa-gov

From: Petersen, Chris [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=AD3A9D0A7FF44172A8A34A8BEDCF349F-PETERSEN, CHRIS]

Sent: 8/20/2020 3:42:48 PM

To: Pearson, Kellon [Pearson.Kellon@epa.gov]; Smalley, Bryant [smalley.bryant@epa.gov]

Subject: RE: ASPECT Poly-America Fire Deployment, Grand Prairie, TX (SOW and IGCE) for December 18, 2019

A6TXPJ00 is site code

From: Pearson, Kellon <Pearson.Kellon@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 10:40 AM
To: Smalley, Bryant <smalley.bryant@epa.gov>
Cc: Petersen, Chris <petersen.chris@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: ASPECT Poly-America Fire Deployment, Grand Prairie, TX (SOW and IGCE) for December 18, 2019

Thanks gents!

Very Respectfully,

Mr. Kellon Pearson
//electronically signed//
US EPA Region 6
Superfund and Emergency Management Division
Resources Management Branch, Resources Section
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500
Dallas, TX 75270-2102
P: (214) 665-8375
pearson.kellon@epa.gov
Flex day Monday

He who fears he will suffer, already suffers because he fears." — Michel De Montaigne.

From: Smalley, Bryant <smalley.bryant@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 10:37 AM
To: Pearson, Kellon <Pearson.Kellon@epa.gov>
Cc: Petersen, Chris <petersen.chris@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: ASPECT Poly-America Fire Deployment, Grand Prairie, TX (SOW and IGCE) for December 18, 2019

Kellon – Yes, I authorize the obligation of these CERCLA Removal Funds and have cc'd Chris Petersen for situational awareness.

В

From: Pearson, Kellon < Pearson. Kellon@epa.gov > Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 10:26 AM

To: Smalley, Bryant <smalley.bryant@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: ASPECT Poly-America Fire Deployment, Grand Prairie, TX (SOW and IGCE) for December 18, 2019

Sir,

Do you give permission to utilize \$5,858.57 of Removal funds?

Very Respectfully,

Mr. Kellon Pearson
//electronically signed//
US EPA Region 6
Superfund and Emergency Management Division
Resources Management Branch, Resources Section
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500
Dallas, TX 75270-2102
P: (214) 665-8375
pearson.kellon@epa.gov
Flex day Monday

He who fears he will suffer, already suffers because he fears." - Michel De Montaigne.

From: Smalley, Bryant < smalley.bryant@epa.gov>

Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 10:01 AM

To: Pearson, Kellon <Pearson.Kellon@epa.gov>; Martin, John <martin.john@epa.gov>; LaBombard, Will

<LaBombard.Will@epa.gov>

Cc: Nguyen, Lyndsey < Nguyen.Lyndsey@epa.gov>; Kaelin, Lawrence < Kaelin.Lawrence@epa.gov>; Taylor, Jillianne

<Taylor.Jillianne@epa.gov>; Loesel, Matthew <loesel.matthew@epa.gov>; Edwards, Christine

<Edwards.Christine@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: ASPECT Poly-America Fire Deployment, Grand Prairie, TX (SOW and IGCE) for December 18, 2019

Kellon – Do you have the Site ID and other needed information?

В

From: Pearson, Kellon < Pearson. Kellon@epa.gov>

Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 9:59 AM

To: Martin, John <martin.john@epa.gov>; LaBombard, Will <LaBombard.Will@epa.gov>

Cc: Nguyen, Lyndsey < Nguyen. Lyndsey@epa.gov>; Kaelin, Lawrence < Kaelin. Lawrence@epa.gov>; Taylor, Jillianne

<<u>Taylor.Jillianne@epa.gov</u>>; Loesel, Matthew <<u>loesel.matthew@epa.gov</u>>; Edwards, Christine

<Edwards.Christine@epa.gov>; Smalley, Bryant <smalley.bryant@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: ASPECT Poly-America Fire Deployment, Grand Prairie, TX (SOW and IGCE) for December 18, 2019

Thanks.

Very Respectfully,

Mr. Kellon Pearson
//electronically signed//
US EPA Region 6
Superfund and Emergency Management Division
Resources Management Branch, Resources Section
1201 Elm Street, Suite 500
Dallas, TX 75270-2102
P: (214) 665-8375
pearson.kellon@epa.gov
Flex day Monday

He who fears he will suffer, already suffers because he fears." — Michel De Montaigne.

From: Martin, John < martin.john@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2020 9:58 AM

To: Pearson, Kellon <Pearson.Kellon@epa.gov>; LaBombard, Will <LaBombard.Will@epa.gov>

Cc: Nguyen, Lyndsey < Nguyen, Lyndsey@epa.gov>; Kaelin, Lawrence < Kaelin, Lawrence@epa.gov>; Taylor, Jillianne

<a href="mailto: Loesel, Loesel, Matthew Loesel, Christine

<<u>Edwards.Christine@epa.gov</u>>; Smalley, Bryant <smalley.bryant@epa.gov>

Subject: ASPECT Poly-America Fire Deployment, Grand Prairie, TX (SOW and IGCE) for December 18, 2019

Good afternoon Kellon and Will,

Please find the attached SOW and IGCE for the Poly-America fire in Grand Prairie, TX for the ASPECT response on Wednesday August 19, 2020.

Contract: EP-W-12-005 TO #36

Let me know if you have any questions.

Thanks, John



John J. Mortin CMAD - ASPECT (ROG-SEMD-EAR) 1201 Em Street Dollos, Texas 75270-2102 (214) 665 -6748

Asset List by Location

Barcode	Description	Status	Location	Serial Number	Brand	Model	Market Value	Туре
S28285	Kubota Model RTV-X1100C	Checked Out	American Cresote, Deridder (Adam Adams)	17722	Kubota	RTV-X1100C		(1) Vehicles
S28284	Kubota Model RTV-X1100C	Checked Out	American Cresote, Deridder (Adam Adams)	17552	Kubota	RTV-X1100C		(1) Vehicles

Number of assets: 2 Subtotal:

EPA WH	ISE Addison							
Barcode	Description	Status	Location	Serial Number	Brand	Model	Market Value	Туре
S67443	Boat Clark	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	WDV19935H910	Clark	19ft		(1) Vehicles
C14038	Trailer Mobile Command Post (GN5)	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	5NHUELF298N06 3591	Farber	ELGA8.530TA S		(1) Vehicles
C14037	Trailer Mobile Command Post (GN6)	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	5NHUELF208N06 3592	Farber	ELGA8.530TA S		(1) Vehicles
S28347	Vehicle Ford F250 Super Duty	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	1FT7W2BT6KEF8 4703	Ford	F250 Super Duty		(1) Vehicles
C14022	Vehicle Chevrolet 6500 (LRV-1)	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	1GBJ6C1C67F40 2288	Chevy	6500		(1) Vehicles
S67462	Vehicle Chevrolet Tahoe (R1)	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	1GNSKAE03BR3 25572	Chevrolet	Tahoe		(1) Vehicles
S67417	Vehicle Dodge 1500	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	1D7RV1CP1BS68 5923	Dodge	1500		(1) Vehicles
C14046	Vehicle Ford F350 Super Duty	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	1FTWW31PX7EA 08299	Ford	F350 Super Duty		(1) Vehicles
S28369	Vehicle Chevrolet Tahoe (fleet)	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	1GNSKEKC6HR3 09994	Chevrolet	Tahoe		(1) Vehicles
S67416	Vehicle Ford F350 Super Duty Dually	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	1FT8W3DTXKEF 30182	Ford	F350 Super Duty Dually		(1) Vehicles
C14023	Vehicle Freightliner (LRV2)	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	4UZAASBV57CY4 7977	Freightliner	Ultimaster		(1) Vehicles
A87622	Vehicle Mobile Command Post (MCP)	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	1FVHCYDC35HU 18501	Freightliner	M2 Business Class		(1) Vehicles

Page 1/4 HCI Integrated Solutions Thursday, August 20, 2020

	ISE Addison							
Barcode	Description	Status	Location	Serial Number	Brand	Model	Market Value	Туре
S28346	Dodge 1500 (LOG)	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	1C6RR7KMXGS3 77236		1500 Diesel		(1) Vehicles
S28344	Vehicle Ford Expedition (R2)	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	1FMJU1GT6GEF 50827	Ford	Expedition		(1) Vehicles
S28345	Vehicle Ford F550 Super Duty	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	1FD0W5HT8GEC 87901	Ford	F550 Super Duty Super Duty		(1) Vehicles
A87645	Generator Honda EU2000	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	EAAJ-1324622	Honda	EU2000		(2) Generators
A87646	Generator Honda EU2000	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	EAAJ-1311119	Honda	EU2000		(2) Generators
A87647	Generator Honda EU2000	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	EAAJ-1311120	Honda	EU2000		(2) Generators
S41216	Generator Honda EU2000	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	EAAJ-1751762	Honda	EU2000		(2) Generators
S41217	Generator Honda EU2000	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	EAAJ-1751765	Honda	EU2000		(2) Generators
S41218	Generator Honda EU2000	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	EAAJ-1751763	Honda	EU2000		(2) Generators
S41219	Generator Honda EU2000	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	EAAJ-1751766	Honda	EU2000		(2) Generators
S41220	Generator Honda EU2000	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	EAAJ-1751761	Honda	EU2000		(2) Generators
S67419	Generator Magnum 80k Diesel	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	043643	Magnum	MMG80		(2) Generators
S90178	MultiRae Pro	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	MCB3Z060PB	MultiRae Pro	PGM6248		(3) Detection Equipment
S90172	MultiRae Pro	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	MCB3Z061PB	Honeywell	PGM6248		(3) Detection Equipment
S28341	DataRam PDR1500	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	CM15251002	Thermo Scientific	PDR1500		(3) Detection Equipment
B34311	MultiRae Pro	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	MCB3Z150Q9	Honeywell	PGM6248		(3) Detection Equipment
B34312	MultiRae Pro	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	MCB3Z148Q9	Honeywell	PGM6248		(3) Detection Equipment
334314	MultiRae Pro	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	MCB3Z149Q9	Honeywell	PGM6248		(3) Detection Equipment
S28274	Lumex RA-915+	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	3549	Lumex	RA915		(3) Detection Equipment
528348	UltraRae 3000	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	596-907801	UltraRAE	PGM7360		(3) Detection Equipment

Page 2/4 HCI Integrated Solutions Thursday, August 20, 2020

EPA W	HSE Addison							
Barcode	Description	Status	Location	Serial Number	Brand	Model	Market Value	Туре
S28343	TVA 2020	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	202016061409	Thermo Scientific	TVA2020		(3) Detection Equipment
S89701	TVA 2020	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	202016111726	Thermo Scientific	TVA 2020		(3) Detection Equipment
S28469	AreaRAE PRO	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	W01A00001990	Honeywell	PGM-6560D		(3) Detection Equipment
S28470	AreaRAE PRO	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	W01A00001988	Honeywell	PGM-6560D		(3) Detection Equipment
S28471	AreaRAE PRO	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	W01A00001991	Honeywell	PGM-6560D		(3) Detection Equipment
S28472	AreaRAE PRO	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	W01A00001989	Honeywell	PGM-6560D		(3) Detection Equipment
S28473	MultiRAE PRO	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	M01FA06840	Honeywell	PGM-6248		(3) Detection Equipment
S28474	MultiRAE PRO	In Storage	EPA WHSE Addison	M01FA06841	Honeywell	PGM-6248		(3) Detection Equipment

Number of assets: 40 Subtotal:

Out For Service										
Barcode	Description	Status	Location	Serial Number	Brand	Model	Market Value	Гуре		
S28340	DataRam PDR1500	Checked Out	Out For Service	CM15251001	Thermo Scientific	PDR1500		(3) Detection Equipment		
S28431	Chip Measurement System	Checked Out	Out For Service	ARKC-0085	Drager	CMS Analyzer		3) Detection Equipment		
S28275	Lumex RA-915+	Checked Out	Out For Service	3550	Lumex	RA915		3) Detection Equipment		

Number of assets: 3 Subtotal:

Poly-America Fire									
Barcode	Description	Status	Location	Serial Number	Brand	Model	Market Value Type		
S28432	Chip Measurement System	Checked Out	Poly-America Fire	ARKA-0155	Drager	CMS Analyzer	(3) Detection Equipment		
S28465	AreaRAE PRO	Checked Out	Poly-America Fire	W01A00001995	Honeywell	PGM-6560D	(3) Detection Equipment		
S28466	AreaRAE PRO	Checked Out	Poly-America Fire	W01A00001992	Honeywell	PGM-6560D	(3) Detection Equipment		

Page 3/4 HCI Integrated Solutions Thursday, August 20, 2020

Poly-Am	nerica Fire						
Barcode	Description	Status	Location	Serial Number	Brand	Model	Market Value Type
S28467	AreaRAE PRO	Checked Out	Poly-America Fire	W01A00001994	Honeywell	PGM-6560D	(3) Detection Equipment
S28468	AreaRAE PRO	Checked Out	Poly-America Fire	W01A00001993	Honeywell	PGM-6560D	(3) Detection Equipment

Number of assets: 5 Subtotal:

Weston	(Dallas)						
Barcode	Description	Status	Location	Serial Number	Brand	Model	Market Value Type
S28333	UltraRae 3000	Checked Out	Weston (Dallas)	596-907046	UltraRae	PGM7360	(3) Detection Equipment

Number of assets: 1 Subtotal:

Total number of assets: 51 Total:

Page 4/4 HCI Integrated Solutions Thursday, August 20, 2020



United States Environmental Protection Agency Organizational Assessment of Performance

1. Organization: Region 6 2. Fiscal Year: 2020

- 3. Key Events/Issues/Challenges and Management Actions: Advanced EPA goals, cross-agency strategies, and core values using ELMS visual management tools. Issued 209 press releases highlighting EPA's accomplishments. Completed Donna Canal cleanup under budget/ahead of schedule, removing > 23,000 tons of PCB-contaminated sediment. Completed 2 cleanups at Questa Mine site. Restored 17 acres and removed >132,000 tons of chat at the Tar Creek site. Removed 24,000 tons of asbestos-containing materials from B.F. Goodrich Asbestos site. Three significant emergency responses: TPC Tank Fire, Poly-America Fire, and, during COVID 19, Category 4 Hurricane Laura. Recovered costs/negotiated work valued at > \$35M for Superfund site cleanups. Negotiated City of Houston judicial consent decree - largest in the nation for a municipality involving sanitary sewer overflows and effluent violations; a civil penalty of \$4.4M. Corpus Christi CD -civil penalty of \$1.136M and injunctive relief costing \$725M over 15 years. Churchill Downs CD - civil penalty of \$2.79M and injunctive relief costing \$5.6M through operational changes and construction projects. Georgia Pacific Chemical and Paper/Pulp Plants Amended CD - \$600K in penalty and implement 3 new SEPs valued at \$1.8M. Conducted > 108 engagements addressing EPA Tribal Environmental Plans. Held 11 formal consultations with Tribal Nations. Coordinated with two state agencies to host webinar on Information Systems to Advance Environmental Justice over 1,000 participants. First Region to host the PEYA ceremony in 2020. Supported War on Lead by building coalitions through Lead Based Paint training events with over 200 realtors in NM and the distribution of over 6,700 Lead Planners to over 100 partners around the Region. Issued several novel and controversial SIP actions working through extensive public comments. Issued one Tribal Title V Permit on a Medical Waste Incinerator at Nambe Pueblo subject to NSPS. Proposed PSD and a Title V permit for public comment for a Deepwater Port project. Completed Community Ambient Air Monitoring for chloroprene in LaPlace, LA; issued summary report. Collaborated with EPA HQ UIC program, OGD, and OGC to establish the first Direct Implementation Tribal Cooperative Agreement to resolve legacy issues with Osage Nation UIC grant funding. Over 600 properties made ready for anticipated use. Certified/delivered 37 Certified Cost Recovery Packages totaling > \$16M. Recognized as Stars of Champions for achieving 4 of 5 small business goals. Over 80% of FOIAs processed timely. Awarded \$25,000 grant to University of Texas for training program to reduce lead exposure. Negotiated first ever PPG with the NMED for \$9.8M. Collaborated with LA and RESTORE Council to secure \$130M for Maurepas Swamp project to benefit 45,000 acres of habitat. RA served as National Energy Policy Advisor.
- 4. EPA Lean Management System (ELMS) Deployment-Improving Efficiency and Effectiveness through ELMS- 53 active, digital Visual Management Boards (31 archived); > 90% of staff huddling weekly; 20 ELMS Coaches, 60 Problem-Solvers; 226 employee ideas implemented; over 100 processes improved. Conducted 5 RA/DRA Gemba Walks for 15 processes. 40 R6 employees attended 2019 ELMS Summit. Trained 22 new Problem-Solvers. Supported OK & TX State ELMS deployment; trained 6 TCEQ teams, 3 ODEQ teams, and >30 champions; first virtual State ELMS deployment with OK. Increased the ELMS HASP Approval time by reducing baseline review from 7 days to an average of 1.9 days, approving efficiency by 60%. Contributed to the agency goal of increasing employee usage of OneDrive for file storage, sharing and collaboration. Over 120 processes improved, including 27 Bowling Chart metrics. Managers completed improvement projects focused on significant issues identified in response to the 2019 EVS. Conducted Monthly Business Reviews; Piloted Problem Response System.
- 5. Performance Reporting- OAR- Processed 30 SIP actions, exceeding our goal of 20 SIPs by 50%. Reduced SIP backlog from 135 in 2013 to 22 in 2020. OECA- 67% reduction of judicial cases referred > 2.5 years without case filed; 1 referral; 4 CDs entered. Conducted 788 compliance monitoring activities; concluded 342 enforcement actions resulting in \$8.5M in penalties, \$2.6M in stipulated penalties, \$2.2M in SEPs, and \$65.4M spent in complying actions, resulting in 14.6M lbs of pollutants reduced and 19K+ people protected. 575 drinking water systems addressed with formal enforcement action/resolved. 96% State Review Framework Round 3 recommendations implemented. 93.5% of timely EPA inspection reports communicated to entity within 70 days. LASapproved QA plans within 30 days. OLEM- Achieved 133% Brownfields assessment goal, 100% Brownfields Cleanup goal, 104% Brownfields Ready for Available Use (RAU) goal, 150% RCRA Reuse goal. Completed 5 Remedial Action Projects. 6 RODs completed. 24 Five-Year reviews completed. 2 NPL deletions. Completed 51 Remedial Site Assessments. Completed 73 SPCC inspections at oil storage facilities. 28 FRP inspections at high-risk oil storage facilities. 8 Time Critical Removal Actions costing \$5.59M. 10 OPA Removal Actions costing \$2.39M. OCSPP- Processed > 11,000 NOAs and issued 33 refusals, ensuring that > 467,000lbs of illegal pesticide products did not enter US commerce. OW- Sampled 57 tribal day cares and schools at 18 tribes for lead in drinking water and mitigated lead exposure at 100% of all sites above the EPA action level, protecting more than 4,000 children. Osage UIC DI program issued a total of 17 permits for Class II wells. Approved 5 water quality standards changes, yielding innovative solutions for 2 municipal and 3 industrial dischargers in AR and TX. Issued 31 NPDES permits. Completed 137 water programmatic grant closeouts. Completed construction of 3 US/Mexico infrastructure projects. Disbursed about \$7M to assist US/Mexico Border communities with water infrastructure needs; 16K+ border residents will receive reliable wastewater collection and treatment. Conducted 3 ocean surveys to expand the Ocean Dumping Sites. Approved 78 Burial-At-Sea submittals. OMS- Processed 610 grant/agreement actions totaling > \$305M. 51 GAP grants supporting 19 PPGs awarded to tribes/consortia totaling \$5.3M. Developed EPA's first SharePoint-based electronic grant file repository. Met/exceeded the agency established grants closeout goal of 99% of FY18. Successfully managed FY2020 appropriated fund resources of \$627.5M. OITA- Completed 11 Border 2020 projects.

From: Carroll, Craig [Carroll.Craig@epa.gov]

Sent: 8/19/2020 1:29:55 PM

To: Durant, Jennah [Durant.Jennah@epa.gov]

CC: Smalley, Bryant [smalley.bryant@epa.gov]; Hubbard, Joseph [Hubbard.Joseph@epa.gov]; Petersen, Chris

[petersen.chris@epa.gov]; Assunto, Carmen [Assunto.Carmen@epa.gov]

Subject: Re: Proposed desk statement: Grand Prairie fire

Yes that is fine.

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 19, 2020, at 8:25 AM, Durant, Jennah < Durant. Jennah@epa.gov> wrote:

Is this OK? David is asking for a statement.

From: Durant, Jennah

Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 8:01 AM

To: Smalley, Bryant <smalley.bryant@epa.gov>; Hubbard, Joseph <Hubbard.Joseph@epa.gov>

Cc: Carroll, Craig <Carroll.Craig@epa.gov>; Petersen, Chris <petersen.chris@epa.gov>; Assunto, Carmen

<assunto.carmen@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Proposed desk statement: Grand Prairie fire

Thanks. Please let me know if you concur on this statement or have any changes:

EPA is aware of the fire at the Poly-America facility in Grand Prairie, Texas and is coordinating with state and local responders to provide assistance. EPA has deployed the ASPECT plane with airborne chemical detection capabilities to assist with air monitoring.

From: Smalley, Bryant < smalley.bryant@epa.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 7:46 AM

To: Durant, Jennah < Durant.Jennah@epa.gov >; Hubbard, Joseph < Hubbard.Joseph@epa.gov >

Cc: Carroll, Craig < <u>Carroll.Craig@epa.gov</u>>; Petersen, Chris < <u>petersen.chris@epa.gov</u>>; Assunto, Carmen

<<u>Assunto.Carmen@epa.gov</u>>

Subject: RE: Proposed desk statement: Grand Prairie fire

EPA does not have anyone on scene, but ASPECT has been deployed and should be in the air by 0820.

Bryant

From: Durant, Jennah < <u>Durant.Jennah@epa.gov</u>>

Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 7:38 AM

To: Smalley, Bryant < smalley.bryant@epa.gov >; Hubbard, Joseph < Hubbard.Joseph@epa.gov >

Cc: Carroll, Craig < Carroll. Craig@epa.gov>; Petersen, Chris < petersen.chris@epa.gov>; Assunto, Carmen

<Assunto.Carmen@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Proposed desk statement: Grand Prairie fire

Is there anything to add to this draft desk statement. Do we have anyone on scene?

EPA is aware of the fire at the Poly-America facility in Grand Prairie, Texas. EPA is coordinating with state and local responders to provide assistance.

From: Smalley, Bryant <smalley.bryant@epa.gov>Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 7:14 AM

To: Hubbard, Joseph < Hubbard. Joseph@epa.gov >

Cc: McAtee, Jeffrey < McAtee.Jeffrey@epa.gov>; Taheri, Diane < Taheri.Diane@epa.gov>; Balandran, Olivia-R < balandran.olivia-r@epa.gov>; Carroll, Craig < Carroll.Craig@epa.gov>; Petersen, Chris < petersen.chris@epa.gov>; Durant, Jennah < Durant.Jennah@epa.gov>

Subject: Re: Article: WFAA, Massive plastic fire continues to burn hours after it started at factory in Grand Prairie I

Thanks Joe - we just found out about an hour ago. We are coordinating with State and locals to provide assistance.

В

Sent from my iPhone

On Aug 19, 2020, at 7:08 AM, Hubbard, Joseph < Hubbard. Joseph@epa.gov> wrote:

 $\frac{https://www.wfaa.com/mobile/article/news/local/massive-fire-breaks-out-at-factory-in-grand-prairie/287-aa702222-e44e-40e8-8e45-2d625ec62e90$

Massive plastic fire continues to burn hours after it started at factory in Grand Prairie

Details of the fire are not known. WFAA has reached out to local officials for more information.



GRAND PRAIRIE, Texas — This is a breaking news story and will be updated.

A massive fire broke out at the <u>Poly-America factory</u> in Grand Prairie around midnight Wednesday morning and is still burning hours later.

Some residents may need to self-evacuate if they feel in danger, Grand Prairie officials said. They are currently trying to do a reverse 911 call out to make residents in the area aware, but no official evacuations have been declared.

No injuries have been reported, according to officials, but the factory did have a night shift crew present at the time the fire broke out.

At least two fire departments, Grand Prairie and Cedar Hill, were on scene, as well as the DFW Airport foam sprayer.

Many have reported that the fire and smoke can be seen for miles. The smoke appeared on a <u>WFAA</u> weather camera in Denton, about 40 miles away from the scene.

Smoke from the fire is headed west and is a combustion from plastic, so it's not good to breathe in for people who live in the area, Grand Prairie officials said. Those with underlying conditions should avoid the area if possible.

Massive fire breaks out at Poly-America in Grand Prairie

1/20

What's burning at the Poly-America factory in Grand Prairie?

Headquartered in Grand Prairie, Poly-America produces polyethylene products, including trash bags and plastic sheeting, and recycles and compounds polyethylene, according to its website.

The main issues for crews right now are area logistics and the nature of plastic fires being difficult to put out, officials said. One of their obstacles is the train tracks that lie between their units and the building.

Fork lifts are currently being used to create a fire break and slow its spread.

WFAA crews at the scene said there was no obvious odor and estimated the size of the fire to be around a football field.

Grand Prairie officials said they had shut down the President George Bush Turnpike as they are afraid power line towers seen in the fire are going to pull power lines down over the turnpike if they collapse. The base of one of them has buckled already.

The fire began after those high-tension power lines fell into the plastic inventory below, fire officials said.

Crews had been at the scene for almost six hours as of 5:45 a.m. and authorities needed to bring in fuel trucks to maintain their presence fighting the fire.

A shift change will occur at 7 a.m., but fire officials are working out how to keep the scene staffed as they believe their efforts could go well into Thursday to put out the blaze.

The same exact scenario happened 32 years ago, Grand Prairie officials said, and it took a full day for the crews to put out that fire.

Grand Prairie factory fire's effect on traffic, weather and power

The company's headquarters are located at 2000 W Marshall Drive.

Some of the roadways in the area are blocked to traffic.

Grand Prairie officials said the President George Bush Turnpike was shut down from Interstate 20 to Interstate 30 in both directions. Spur 303 is also shut down in between President George Bush Turnpike and Highway 360, as well as sections of West Marshall Drive and Great Southwest Parkway near the factory.

Grand Prairie police said heavy traffic delays are expected in the area and are advising drivers to seek alternate routes for their morning commute.

The massive plume of smoke had actually also partially affected temperatures in the Grand Prairie area and was caught on weather radars, Meteorologist Greg Fields said.

There were several power outages reported in the area according to Oncor, but it is not known if they're tied to the fire. WFAA has reached out to Oncor for more information.

From: Loesel, Matthew [loesel.matthew@epa.gov]

Sent: 8/19/2020 9:49:49 PM

To: david.cook@westonsolutions.com; Rauscher, Jon [Rauscher.Jon@epa.gov]

CC: Eric.bay@westonsolutions.com
Subject: RE: Poly-America Fire Response

Let's talk tomorrow

From: Cook, David < David.Cook@WestonSolutions.com>

Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 4:49 PM

To: Rauscher, Jon <Rauscher.Jon@epa.gov>; Loesel, Matthew <loesel.matthew@epa.gov>

Cc: Eric.bay@westonsolutions.com **Subject:** RE: Poly-America Fire Response

Hello Doctor and Matt--

I assume we need a map to accompany this text blurb? Can you have the ASPECT folk send me the typical KML?

Would you like me to throw the roving Air Mon. Data on a map too? If so:

What would the Reporting period be?

What are the analytes we are monitoring and what is the detect/non-detect threshold?

Do we need a quick call?

Thanks,

David Cook START R6 IT/Data Management Lead Weston Solutions, Inc. (469) 666-5505 Direct (512) 970-8836 Cell

From: Rauscher, Jon <<u>Rauscher.Jon@epa.gov</u>>
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 3:13 PM
To: Loesel, Matthew <loesel.matthew@epa.gov>

Subject: Poly-America Fire Response

** External Email **

ASPECT:

The Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology (ASPECT) aircraft found detections of isobutylene and 1-butene. ASPECT found no exceedances of the Texas comparison values on August 19, 2020. ASPECT has conducted a screening level assessment to evaluate the unreported or undetected releases of hazardous materials or contaminants at the Poly-America Fire Response in Grand Prairie, Texas. The screening level results from ASPECT were compared to the ASPECT list of Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) short-term Air Monitoring Comparison Values (AMCVs) and found no exceedances of the short-term AMCVs for isobutylene (270 ppm) and 1-butene (27 ppm).

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From: Rauscher, Jon [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP

(FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=49A15E22F3AE4B2F9AAF52AF494423BE-RAUSCHER, JON]

Sent: 8/19/2020 8:12:53 PM

To: Loesel, Matthew [loesel.matthew@epa.gov]

CC: Smalley, Bryant [smalley.bryant@epa.gov]; Turner, Philip [turner.philip@epa.gov]; Hidalgo, Chelsea

[Hidalgo.Chelsea@epa.gov]; Cook, David [David.Cook@WestonSolutions.com]; Cook, Brenda

[cook.brenda@epa.gov]

Subject: Poly-America Fire Response

ASPECT:

The Airborne Spectral Photometric Environmental Collection Technology (ASPECT) aircraft found detections of isobutylene and 1-butene. ASPECT found no exceedances of the Texas comparison values on August 19, 2020. ASPECT has conducted a screening level assessment to evaluate the unreported or undetected releases of hazardous materials or contaminants at the Poly-America Fire Response in Grand Prairie, Texas. The screening level results from ASPECT were compared to the ASPECT list of Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) short-term Air Monitoring Comparison Values (AMCVs) and found no exceedances of the short-term AMCVs for isobutylene (270 ppm) and 1-butene (27 ppm).